



Attorney Docket No.: 29794/36547A

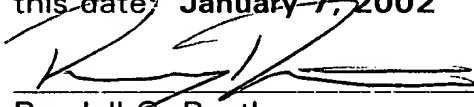
PATENT

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| Applicants: |) | I hereby certify that this paper |
| Ervin Dennis Walter et al. |) | is being deposited with the |
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| Group Art Unit: 2161 |) | Commissioner for Patents, |
| Examiner: Not yet assigned |) | Washington, D.C. 20231 on |
| |) | this date: <u>January 7, 2002</u> |
| |) |  |
| |) | Randall G. Rueth |
| |) | Registration No.: 45,887 |
| |) | Attorney for Applicants |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the document identified on the enclosed form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, is disclosed to the Examiner for consideration in connection with the above application.

The submission of the enclosed document is not an admission that it is prior art or relevant to the invention.



TIME OF FILING

This information disclosure statement is being filed to the best of the undersigned's knowledge before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), no certification or fee is required.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

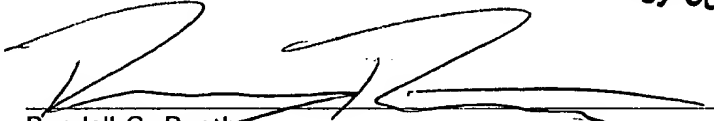
No fee is required. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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January 7, 2002

Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

U.S. Department of Commerce
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29794/36547ASerial No.
09/821,615Applicant
Ervin Dennis Walter et al.Filing Date
03/29/2001Group
2161**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***(Use several sheets if necessary)***U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------|-------|----------|----------------------------------|
| | US 2001/0049610 A1 | | Hazumi | 705 | 3 | 05/25/2001 |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED